(f). The findings have revealed that no information or material of strategic improtance or of security concern had been lost in the theft.

National Defence University

1679. *SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be* pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a National Defence University and National Institute of Nano-technology as well as visa centre in Punjab in the near future;

(b) if so, by when and what shall be its activities;

(c) how far it would improve the national defence position; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up a similar university in Uttar Pradesh, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) The Committee on National Defence University has recommended the establishment of an Indian National Defence University. This will include existing institutes namely National Defence College (Delhi), National Defence Academy (Pune), Institute of Defence Management (Secunderabad) and Defence Services Staff College (Wellington) and new institutes namely National Institute of Strategic Studies, College of National Security Policy, Institute for Advanced Technology Studies (Bangalore). The objective of the proposed National Defence university is to undertake long-term defence and strategic studies and create synergy between the academic community and Government functionaries. The Government have not taken any decision to set up the Defence University either in Punjab or Uttar Pradesh.

There is not proposal to set up a visa centre or National Institute of Nano-technology in Punjab.

Relaxation of physical standards for recruitment in defence forces

1680. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to relax the physical standards for recruitment to various posts in the defence forces;